

LITERATURE CITED

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MENTZELIA ALBESCENS AND LONICERA XYLOSTEUM IN MISSOURI. — While botanizing near Joplin, Missouri, recently I came upon a plant, obviously belonging to the family *Loasaceae*, which I did not recognize; and I was unable to find it in either the eighth edition of Gray's Manual or in Britton and Brown's Illustrated Flora.

It proved to be *Mentzelia albescens* (Gill.) Griseb., previously known only from much farther west, ranging from New Mexico and Texas through Mexico and to Argentina and Chile. The plant was described by Gray as *Mentzelia Wrightii* in *Plantae Fendlerianae Novi-Mexicanae*, Mem. Amer. Acad. 4: 48. 1849; and there are several other synonyms. The determination was confirmed by Dr. Robert E. Woodson, curator of the herbarium, Missouri Botanical Garden.

Where first found, the plant was growing on mine dumps, perhaps at least fifty or sixty years old, on the north side of Turkey Creek about 2½ miles n. w. of Joplin, Missouri. The dumps consist of crumbling limestone and dolomite with fragments and boulders of chert and limestone; and practically no other vegetation was growing on them. The plants here were rather abundant, 3-5 dm. high, nearly simple or a little branched above. My collection data is No. 69221, Aug. 27, 1960.

A few days later I again found the plant growing on chat piles of old mines about two miles up Turkey Creek and about a half mile n. w. of Joplin. The record here is No. 69227, along Loan Elm Road, Aug. 30, 1960.

Then on Sept. 9th, 1960, while collecting near Carl Junction, Jasper County, Missouri, about ten miles n. w. of the Joplin localities, I again found the plant growing on chat piles of abandoned mines, about a mile and a half from the town. The plants here were more abundant and averaged larger in size than at the Joplin localities; some of them were up to 7-8 dm. high and more widely branched above the middle. The collection No. is 69263.

The chat piles, on which *Mentzelia albescens* was growing, consist of crushed chert with a smaller admixture of limestone or dolomite or both from which the lead and zinc ore has been extracted. Because of its loose dry nature and the presence of alkalies and sulphides, the surface, if undisturbed, remains sterile for many years, and no plant life can find lodgment on it. However, it seems that this southwestern desert plant has found it to be a congenial habitat, for it is becoming abundant and is well established at all of the localities given above. Specimens of all the collections mentioned are deposited in the Ernest J. Palmer private herbarium, Webb City, Missouri. Duplicates of some of them will be sent to the Gray Herbarium, the herbarium of the Missouri Botanical Garden, and to other herbaria.

Lonicera Xylosteum L. is another recent collection that appears to be new to the Missouri flora, though not to that of the Manual Range. A large plant was found growing in open upland woods, along a bank of an old electric railway grade, about half a mile north of Joplin, Missouri. It was collected under my No. 69188, Aug. 6, 1960. The range given for this introduced species in the eighth edition of Gray's Manual is N. E. to Mich., s to N. J., Penn. and O. — ERNEST J. PALMER, WEBB CITY, MISSOURI.

A NEW VARIETY OF *RUDBECKIA FULGIDA*. — *Rudbeckia fulgida* Ait. var. *auriculata* var. nov. Folia radicalia elliptica, lamina 15-25 cm. longa, 5-8 cm. lata, acuta, basi attenuata; folia caulina acuta, integra vel grosse serrata; folia caulina inferiora sessilia, pandurata vel spatulata, basi angustata, auriculata; folia caulina mediocria sessilia pandurata, basi lata, auriculata; folia caulina superiora sessilia ovata vel ovato-lanceolata, auriculata vel truncata.